



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY AVIATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**  
**2218 6TH AVENUE**  
**FORT RUCKER ALABAMA 36362-5105**

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

ATZQ-PE

S: 10 February 2017  
10 November 2016

**MEMORANDUM FOR ARMY AVIATION UNIT COMMANDERS and DIRECTORATES**

**SUBJECT: American Legion Post No. 743 Valor Award Nomination Guidelines and Procedures**

1. Purpose. To provide guidance and procedures for the annual American Legion Post No. 743 Valor Award.

2. Background.

a. The American Legion Post No. 743, known as "the Aviators' Post," holds a unique place in the American Legion. It is the only post whose members are comprised exclusively of rated flight personnel who have served their country in time of war.

b. The Valor Award presentation was initiated shortly after World War II. The award recognizes a military aviator who performed a feat of courage or bravery during the prior year. The Valor Award was written into official Air Force regulations in 1953. In 1970, it was expanded to include a member of each of the three uniformed Services – Army, Air Force, and Navy – who performed "a conspicuous act of valor and courage in the course of aerial flight" during the preceding year.

3. Nomination Guidelines/Procedures.

a. Army nominees shall be rated aviators and is open to all Army elements, Active, Reserve, and National Guard.

b. The act for which nominated must have occurred during an aerial flight within the calendar year 2016.

c. Nomination packets will be endorsed through brigade or equivalent O6 chains of command (include endorsement memos in packet) and must also include:

(1) A brief narrative of the valorous act not to exceed three pages. The narrative will be similar to that submitted for an Air Medal for Valor or Distinguished Flying Cross.

(2) A proposed citation to accompany the award not to exceed one-half page.

(3) Biographical summary of the nominee not to exceed two pages.

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- (4) A photograph of the nominee.
  - (5) Unit points of contact shall be listed for all nominations.
  - d. Written documents shall be double spaced, 12-point, Times New Roman font.
  - e. All nomination packets must be UNCLASSIFIED.
  - f. Nomination packets must be received by USAACE G-1 NLT 10 February 2017. The suspense date will not be extended.
  - g. Submit nomination packets to USAACE G-1 via email to USAACE G-1 Awards Mailbox at [usarmy.rucker.avncoe.list.cmd-g1-awards@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.rucker.avncoe.list.cmd-g1-awards@mail.mil).
4. Award Procedures.
- a. USAACE will convene a board during the period 20 – 24 February 2017 to review all the nominations and recommend this year's nominee to Post No. 743.
  - b. Once board results are approved, the nominee will be notified o/a 25 March 2017.
  - c. American Legion Post No. 743 will host the award ceremony and banquet scheduled for 21 May 2017 at Milleridge Inn, Jericho, New York, at which time the award will be presented.
  - d. Funding of travel expenses for the recipient is the responsibility of the donor unit. If possible, the American Legion requests that an additional person be designated to accompany the recipient to act as presenter at the ceremony.
  - e. American Legion Post 743 will reimburse travel expenses (NTE \$1,000) for one Family member or guest of the recipient.
5. Point of contact is USAACE G1 at [usarmy.rucker.avncoe.list.cmd-g1-awards@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.rucker.avncoe.list.cmd-g1-awards@mail.mil) or 334-255-0949.